

Ms. A. 1. 1. V. 7. P. 31A

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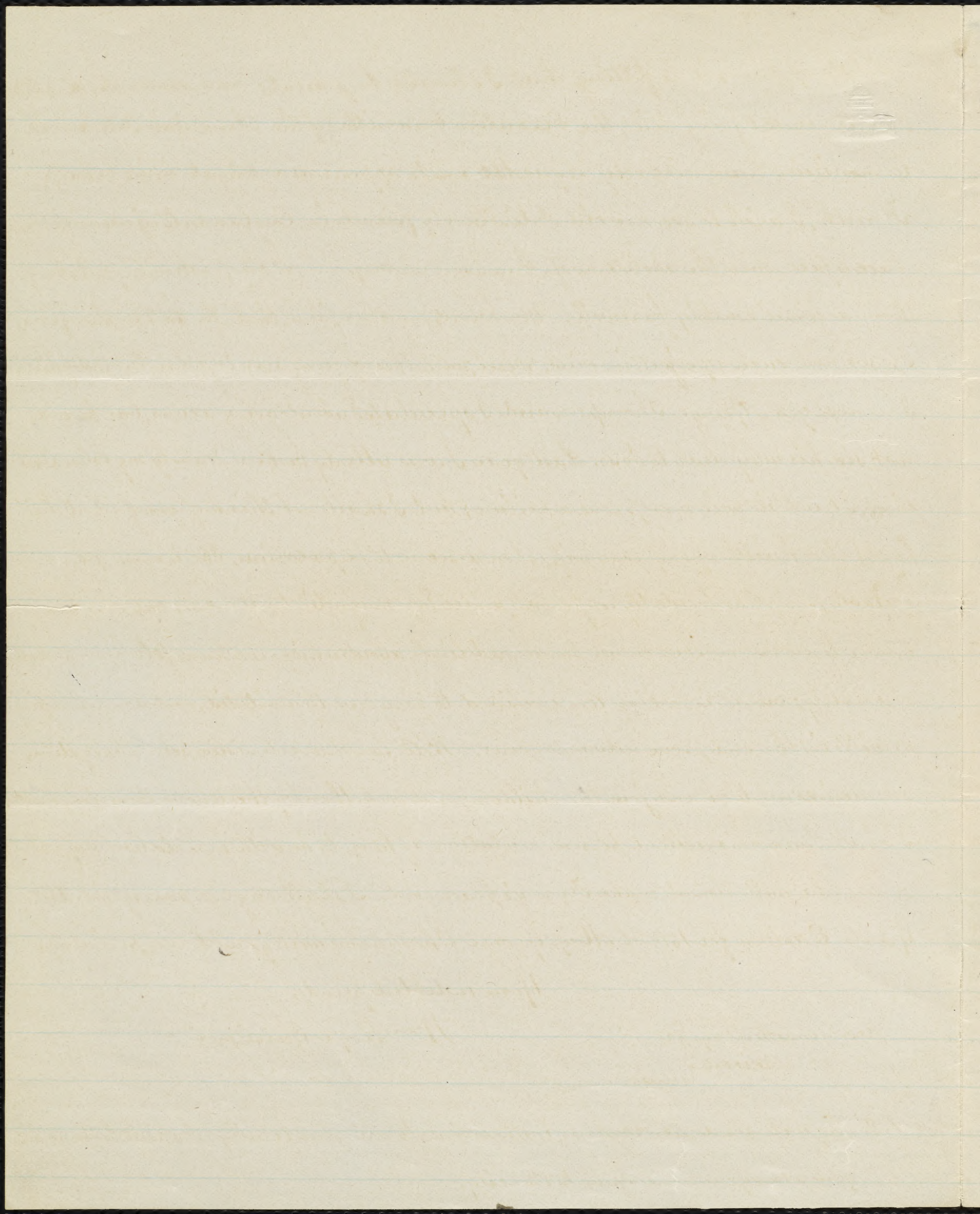
Roxbury, March 10, 1867.

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Dear friend May:

Let me thank you for your note respecting the appearance of the Trustees before the Master in Chancery on the Jackson Will fund. Had Mr Phillips been at home, so that he could have been present, I should have felt free to give my attendance; but as he was absent at the West, I deemed it best, in view of all the circumstances, to remain at home. I am glad an adjournment of hearing was made to the 15th of May, because unquestionably by that time Mr Phillips will have completed his lecturing tour. Let him be present, by all means, before a final judgment is rendered, so that there may be no cause of complaint. Fortunately, the act for the government and reconstruction of the South, passed by the late Congress over the President's Veto settles the question of suffrage; at least, to such an extent as to make any plea that may be urged to devote a considerable or even any portion of Mr Jackson's bequest to that object of little or no effect. It seems to me that the guns are spiked in that direction, and that the Court may now readily come to the conclusion that the best appropriation of all the funds will be in aid of the Freedmen's Educational Commission. So note it be!

Yes, it is true that I am seriously thinking of going across the Atlantic this summer. — for four reasons. First, because, though I expect to be sea-sick, I believe the trip would be decidedly beneficial to my health, and therefore to my future usefulness; for though I am much better than I was last summer and fall, I am still lacking in my usual strength and spirits, and need a total change of surroundings. My previous trips to England have always given me renewed vigor. Second, it will be something. — I think a great deal — to see the Paris Exhibition of the World's industries; but this pleasure will be immeasurably enhanced by meeting there Fanny and her husband and Frank, and perhaps ultimately returning with them all. Third, as a World's Anti-Slavery Congress is to be held at Paris about the



middle of June, it is fitting that I should be present; and, understanding that I contemplated going to it, the Executive Committee of the American Freedmen's Commission have already requested me to appear as a delegate in its behalf. Fourth, I wish to see my old Anti-Slavery friends in England, to rejoice with them face to face over the abolition of American Slavery, and in all probability to take of them a final earthly farewell. You know, my dear friend, that, for the last three years, I have had such a project in view. First, we talked of going over together, but that failed. The next year George Thompson and I speculated about going across, but he could not see his way clear to do so. Last year I was utterly broken down by my falls. This time I trust it will not prove a failure; but I shall not think of going if, at the least, the health of my dear wife should seem to be precarious. She is now very comfortable, and has decidedly improved under her magnetic treatment; but she has now a troublesome sore on her paralyzed limb, about which we have ^{all} felt a good deal of anxiety; but it is looking less inclined to gangrene than it did, and we are hoping it will in the end prove advantageous. With her characteristic self-abnegation, she desires me to go and join the children, and seek thereby the renovation of my health. I shall have an excellent person, a relation of hers, to be with her during my absence. She will almost make Fanny's place good. I shall engage passage in the Great Eastern for 15th of May. George Thompson will go with me, probably.

Your indebted friend,

(Rev. Samuel May, Jr
Leicester
Mass.)

Wm. Lloyd Garrison.

P.S. My wife sends her regards, with mine, to all your family. I shall hope to see you when you come again to the city.

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